

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph [0030] of the original specification with the following paragraph showing changes.

[0030] First, the short term speech spectrum of the speech frame is normalized, with a mean equal to zero dB. Then, a battery of tests is performed to detect the presence of two close low-frequency formants. If we determine the following parameters,

$\sigma_1$  : The relative magnitude of the first estimated formant,

$\sigma_2$  : The relative magnitude of the second estimated formant,

$\lambda_1$  : Index in the frequency axis (1...128) of the first estimated formant,

$\lambda_2$  : Index in the frequency axis (1...128) of the second first estimated formant,

a flag signaling the presence of two close low-frequency formants is raised if the following conditions are met:

1.  $\sigma_1 \geq \tau_1$ ,  $\sigma_2 \geq \tau_2$  and  $(\sigma_1 - \sigma_2) \leq \tau$ ,
2.  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_{\min}$  and  $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_{\max}$ ,
3.  $(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1) \geq \delta_{\min}$  and  $(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1) \leq \delta_{\max}$ .